

To avoid any confusion, and in the spirit of cooperation, Applicants pursuant to this Supplemental Response and Amendment have amended all of the independent claims, specifically Claims 1, 9, and 17, to limit the claims to a protein source that consists of hydrolyzed whey protein.

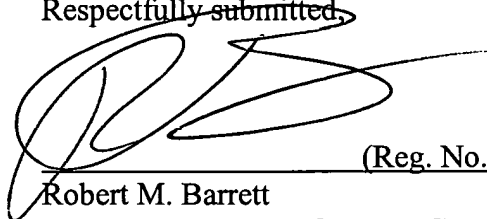
Thus, all of the pending claims are now limited to a protein source that consists of hydrolyzed whey. As noted in Applicants' patent application, this protein source provides advantages over other protein sources such as diets that include casein or whole whey. For example, a hydrolyzed whey protein source reduces the incidence of gastric reflux because gastric emptying is faster than with diets containing casein or whole whey. See page 7 of the specification.

Applicants submit that the claims clearly distinguish over all of the references that have been cited. Therefore Applicants respectfully request that the application now be passed to allowance.

Additionally, Applicants are submitting herewith newly submitted Claims 23-26. These claims do not add new matter.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of their patent application and earnestly solicit an early allowance of same.

~~Respectfully submitted,~~



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